# FRAGMENTS OF THE COMMENTARY OF EPHREM SYRUS UPON THE DIATESSARON

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649434459

Fragments of the Commentary of Ephrem Syrus Upon the Diatessaron by J. Rendel Harris

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# J. RENDEL HARRIS

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### FRAGMENTS OF THE COMMENTARY

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UPON THE

## DIATESSARON

BY

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LONDON:

C. J. CLAY AND SONS, CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS WAREHOUSE, AVE MARIA LANE. 1895

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#### PREFACE.

IN a recent article in the Contemporary Review (August, 1895) I have shown that there is a close and constant dependence of the later Syriac commentators upon the Commentary which Ephrem Syrus made upon Tatian's Diatessaron; and I have found upon a further examination of these writers that it is possible to restore, sometimes exactly and sometimes approximately, large portions of the lost Syriac text of Ephrem, of which, up to the present, no fragment has been produced, and of which no representative is extant except the Armenian translation published by the Venetian fathers. As the recovery of these portions of the lost text not only elucidates the often doubtful meaning of the Armenian version, but also throws much light upon the history and fortunes of the composition, I have thought it worth while to commit the matter to the press in the hope that it will not be valueless to the critic even if a complete copy of the lost Syriac work should ultimately be recovered.

319122

24

#### CONTENTS.

											PAGE
Introduction	800			1	¥3	2	33	÷	94 1	1	1-23
Extracts from	the C	omm	entary	of	Ephr	em	1	•	*		24-90
Concluding Re	unarks	a (16	34	37	- 25	52	54	848	23		91-100

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#### CORRIGENDUM.

P. 18, 1. 29, for \_ amount read \_ amount